GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2718
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Sale of Fertilizer
Dev Km. Sushmita;Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on a proposal to allow sale of fertilizer/urea only to genuine farmers after verification, if so, the details of the proposal and the manner in which it will be implemented in an effective way;

(b) whether the Government have received reports about urea being diverted for non-agricultural purposes and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check the misuse of this commodity ;

(c) whether the Government has been able to address the issue of excessive use of urea. If so, the steps taken in the last two years and the manner in which awareness has been created among farmers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) : As per policy, the fertilizer has to be sold only for the agricultural use. Any diversion is punishable under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) as per Fertilizer Control Order (FCO). No further proposal for verification of farmers is under consideration of Department of Fertilizers.

(b) : Government has declared fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and notified Fertilizer Control Order FCO, 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973. Under ECA and FCO, the State Governments have been empowered to take appropriate action to curb diversion of fertilizers and initiate action against the persons who violate these orders. Department of Fertilizers has, from time to time, written to the Chief Secretaries of various States and Ministry of Home Affairs to activate the enforcement agencies under their jurisdiction to take appropriate action to curb diversion.

A statement indicating the reports received from various States for the last three years is enclosed.

(c) : Department of Agriculture is implementing Soil Health Management (SHM) under National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). Soil Health Management (SHM) is one of the components under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). SHM aims at promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures and bio fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity; up gradation of skill and knowledge of soil testing laboratory staff, extension staff and farmers through training and demonstrations.

Under SHM, financial assistance is provided to State Governments for awareness creation on balanced use of fertilizers through training and demonstration. Financial assistance of Rs.10,000/- per farmer training of 2 days, Rs.10,000/- per demonstration and Rs.20,000/- per frontline field demonstration is provided.

"Soil Health Card" Scheme is also being implemented in the country since February 2015 to provide Soil Health Card to all farmers in the country. Soil Health Card will provided information to farmers on soil nutrient status of their soil and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrient to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil Health Card will be issued every 3 years for all land holdings in the country. Under this scheme also financial assistance is given to State Governments for training of farmers on application of further on soil test basis, amounting to Rs.24,000/- per training.

(d) : Not applicable in view of (c) above.

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